Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

providing information associated with a plurality of ~~communication means~~ radio access means in a communications system to a network element of the communications system, said information based on a plurality of parameters associated with each of [[a]] the plurality of ~~communication means~~ radio access means for serving a mobile station, wherein ~~said plurality of parameters comprises at least a service priority weight~~ a radio access means of the plurality of radio access means includes a plurality of cells, and further wherein the plurality of radio access means use different communication methods;

ordering the ~~communication means~~ radio access means based on said information; ~~and~~

selecting a target radio access means of the plurality of radio access means based on the ordering; and

sending a request to the mobile station to perform ~~performing~~ compressed mode measurements at the mobile station based on ~~said ordering~~ the selected target radio access means, said measurements for selecting a ~~communication means~~ cell associated with the selected target radio access means ~~of said plurality of communication means~~.

2. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the selection is for handover of the mobile station from a first ~~communication means~~ radio access means to a second ~~communication means~~ radio access means.

3. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first ~~communication means~~ radio access means operates at a first frequency of a radio access

technology and the second ~~communication means~~ radio access means operates at a second frequency of said radio access technology.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the radio access technology is code division multiple access.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the radio access technology is wideband code division multiple access.

6. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first ~~communication means~~ radio access means operates in accordance with a first radio access technology, and the second ~~communication means~~ radio access means operates in accordance with a second, different, radio access technology.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the first radio access technology is code division multiple access.

8. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the first radio access technology is wideband code division multiple access.

9. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the second ~~communication means~~ radio access means comprises a second plurality of cells, and the compressed mode measurements comprise signal strength measurements of at least one of said second plurality of cells.

10. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the second ~~communication means~~ radio access means comprises a second plurality of cells, and the compressed mode measurements comprise signal strength measurements of at least one of said second plurality of cells, and wherein the compressed mode measurements comprise decoding a parameter associated with at least one of the second plurality of cells.

11. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the parameter is the base station identification code associated with one of the second plurality of cells.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plurality of parameters further comprises at least one of the following: a real time load, a non real time load, or a signal to interference ratio.

13. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the information comprises a weighting value.

14. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~communication means are ordered in a prioritized order~~ plurality of parameters comprise the service priority weight is associated with a suitability of the radio access means in providing a service requested by the mobile station.

15. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the network element is a radio network controller.

16. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the information is provided by a common resource radio management.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the common resource radio management is a common radio management server.

18. (Currently amended) A communication system comprising:

a network element;

a mobile station;

a plurality of ~~communication means~~ radio access means, said ~~communication means~~ plurality of radio access means ~~being arranged~~ configured to provide communication services to said mobile station, a radio access means of the plurality of radio access means including a plurality of cells, wherein the plurality of radio access means use different communication methods;

~~means for providing information associated with the plurality of communication means to the network element, said information being based on a plurality of parameters~~

~~associated with each of the plurality of communication means, wherein said plurality of parameters comprises at least a service priority weight; and~~

~~means for~~ the network element configured to ord~~ering~~ the ~~communication means~~ radio access means ~~being~~ based on ~~said~~ provided information, the provided information associated with the plurality of radio access means and based on a plurality of parameters associated with each of the plurality of radio access means;

the network element further configured to select a target radio access means of the plurality of radio access means based on the ordering; and

the network element further configured to send a request to said mobile station ~~being arranged~~ to perform compressed mode measurements based on ~~said ordering~~ the selected target radio access means for selecting a cell associated with the selected target radio access means ~~one of the plurality of communication means~~.

19. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

collecting statistics on ~~the~~ handovers from a cell in a communications system to a plurality of other cells in the communications system;

weighting ~~the~~ a cell load of each cell of said plurality of other cells by ~~the~~ a percentage of handovers from said cell to respective one of said plurality of other cells; and

determining a threshold based on said weighted cell loads, the threshold ~~being for~~ used to trigger a load based handover from the cell to one of said plurality of other cells.

20. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein said weighting comprises multiplying said cell load by said percentage for each cell.

21. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the threshold is determined by adding together all said weighted cell loads.

22.-34. (Canceled)

35. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

determining if performing the compressed mode measurements at the mobile station is successful;

if performing the compressed mode measurements is unsuccessful, selecting a second target radio access means of the plurality of radio access means based on the ordering; and

performing second compressed mode measurements at the mobile station based on the second selected target radio access means, said second measurements for selecting a second cell associated with the selected second target radio access means.

36. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the selected target radio access means comprises a second plurality of cells, and the compressed mode measurements comprise signal strength measurements of at least one cell of the second plurality of cells, the method further comprising selecting a handover cell of the second plurality of cells based on a highest signal strength measurement.

37. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ordering the radio access means is further based on a type of service requested by the mobile station.

38. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plurality of parameters comprise a service priority weight that is associated with each of the radio access means and that comprises a suitability of a selected radio access means in providing a service requested by the mobile station.

39. (New) The communication system as claimed in claim 18, further comprising:

the mobile station configured to determine if performing the compressed mode measurements is successful;

if performing the compressed mode measurements is unsuccessful, the network element is further configured to select a second target radio access means of the plurality of radio access means based on the ordering; and

the mobile station is further configured to perform second compressed mode measurements based on the second selected target radio access means, said second measurements for selecting a second cell associated with the selected second target radio access means.

40. (New) The communication system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the selected target radio access means comprises a second plurality of cells, and the compressed mode measurements comprise signal strength measurements of at least one cell of the second plurality of cells, and further wherein the mobile station is further configured to select a handover cell of the second plurality of cells based on a highest signal strength measurement.

41. (New) The communication system as claimed in claim 18, wherein the plurality of parameters comprise a service priority weight that is associated with each of the radio access means and that comprises a suitability of a selected radio access means in providing a service requested by the mobile station.

42. (New) The communication system as claimed in claim 18, wherein ordering the radio access means is further based on a type of service requested by the mobile station.

43. (New) A network element comprising:

a processor configured to order a plurality of radio access means based on information associated with the plurality of radio access means and to select a target radio access means of the plurality of radio access means based on the ordering, the information based on a plurality of parameters associated with each of the plurality of radio access means, the plurality of radio access means including a plurality of cells,

wherein the plurality of radio access means use different communication methods to provide communication services to a mobile station; and

a transmitter configured to send the selected target radio access means to the mobile station to perform compressed mode measurements at the mobile station, the compressed mode measurements for selecting a cell associated with the selected target radio access means.

44. (New) A network element configured to:

collect statistics on handovers from a cell in a communications system to a plurality of other cells in the communications system;

weight a cell load of each cell of said plurality of other cells by a percentage of handovers from said cell to respective one of said plurality of other cells; and

determine a threshold based on said weighted cell loads, the threshold used to trigger a load based handover from the cell to one of said plurality of other cells.

45. (New) A communication system comprising:

a cell;

a plurality of cells; and

a network element configured to

collect statistics on handovers from the cell to each cell of the plurality of cells;

weight a cell load of each cell of the plurality of cells by a percentage of handovers from the cell to each cell of the plurality of cells; and

determine a threshold based on the weighted cell load, the threshold used to trigger a load based handover from the cell to one of the plurality of cells.

46. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising triggering a handover of the mobile station to the cell selected based on the compressed mode

measurements at the mobile station.

47. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a response from the mobile station indicating that the compressed mode measurements were unsuccessful;

selecting a second target radio access means of the plurality of radio access means based on the ordering; and

sending a second request to the mobile station to perform compressed mode measurements at the mobile station based on the selected second target radio access means.

48. (New) A method of selecting a cell for handover of a mobile station to another communication system, the method comprising:

sending a command to a mobile station from a first network element, wherein the command includes a request to perform compressed mode measurements at the mobile station of a neighboring cell, wherein the neighboring cell uses a different communication means than the first network element;

receiving compressed mode measurement results from the mobile station at the first network element;

weighting the received compressed mode measurement results with indicators of a prioritized neighbor cell list to form a prioritized list;

sending a second command to the mobile station from the first network element, wherein the second command includes a second request to decode identification codes at the mobile station based on the prioritized list;

receiving an indicator of a suitable cell from the prioritized list from the mobile station at the first network element; and

sending an instruction to the mobile station from the first network element after receiving the indicator, the instruction to stop decoding identification codes at the mobile station.

49. (New) The method as claimed in claim 48, further comprising receiving the prioritized neighbor cell list from a second network node.

50. (New) The method as claimed in claim 48, wherein the weighting comprises multiplying the received compressed mode measurement results by the indicators of the prioritized neighbor cell list.

51. (New) The method as claimed in claim 50, wherein the indicators may be based on information selected from at least one of a cell load, a signal strength, a quality-of-service, a cell capacity, a service priority, and a cell quality indicator.

52. (New) The method as claimed in claim 48, further comprising triggering a handover of the mobile station from the first network element to the suitable cell.

53. (New) A method of selecting a cell for handover of a mobile station to another communication system, the method comprising:

sending a command to a mobile station from a first network element, wherein the command includes a request to perform compressed mode measurements at the mobile station of a neighboring cell, wherein the neighboring cell uses a different communication means than the first network element;

receiving compressed mode measurement results from the mobile station at the first network element;

mapping cell identifiers to the received compressed mode measurement results;

sending a first request to a second network element from the first network element, wherein the first request is to prioritize the mapped cell identifiers based at least partially on the received compressed mode measurement results;

receiving a prioritized list of neighboring cells from the second network element at the first network element;

selecting a first number of cells of the neighboring cells based on the received compressed mode measurement results;

sending a second command to the mobile station from the first network element, wherein the second command includes a second request to decode identification codes at the mobile station of the selected first number of cells;

identifying a second number of cells of the received prioritized list; and

if the first number of cells is included in the identified second number of cells, triggering a handover of the mobile station from the first network element to a cell of the selected first number of cells.

54. (New) The method as claimed in claim 53, wherein the first number of cells is equal to one.

55. (New) The method as claimed in claim 53, wherein the cell is a highest priority cell of the received prioritized list.

56. (New) The method as claimed in claim 53, further comprising, if the first number of cells is not included in the identified second number of cells, sending a third command to the mobile station from the first network element, wherein the third command includes a third request to decode an identification code at the mobile station of a highest priority cell of the received prioritized list.

57. (New) The method as claimed in claim 53, further comprising, if the first number of cells is not included in the identified second number of cells, triggering the handover of the mobile station from the first network element to the highest priority cell of the received prioritized list.